

# HEARTLAND ENGINEER



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NOVEMBER ~ DECEMBER 2006

## Year in Review







Ryan Miller from Clinton, Mo., takes a nine-point buck Nov. 5 during the Truman Managed Deer Hunt for the Physically Challenged. Miller took the deer in Shawnee Bend Park, and Jason Hurley, park ranger at the lake, said the buck is the largest one taken in the 16-year history of the hunt. Photo by Brian Thompson

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Join us in **2007**  
as we celebrate the  
**Kansas City District's**  
**100th anniversary**



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ON THE COVER:

Bottom Left: Matthew Beckman (center) works with a local fire department on a prescribed burn. (Photo provided) Bottom Right: Christine Hendzlik stands in front of the Lewis and Clark Center located at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. (Photo by Diana McCoy) Middle Left: Least terns are on the Endangered Species List. They are shorebirds who nest on Missouri River Sandbars. Middle Right: Ed Louis, a geologist for the Kansas City District, takes time for a picture during his deployment to Afghanistan. (Photo provided) Top: The Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) training site at Fort Riley, Kan., was designed by Kansas City District engineers. (Photo by Diana McCoy)

# And the survey says...

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Command Climate Survey, Military Construction Survey, Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste Survey, Civil Works Customer Surveys and Kansas City District's Fiscal Year 2006 Project Delivery Team Survey—over the past two months, we've had the good fortune of getting feedback from a variety of stakeholders, internal and external. Truth is we've actively sought out this input.

A great organization is always looking to improve itself—its people, its processes and its communications (sound familiar?). Learning organizations take input from their customers, staff, and peers to identify areas for improvement and to develop actionable plans to address shortcomings. To me, as a leader, surveys are always enlightening. They help me see blind spots—my personal blind spots and our organizational blind spots.

The senior leadership team has already conducted After Action Reviews on the PDT Survey. We're in the process of AARs for MILCON, HTRW, and Civil Works surveys. I've just received the results from the Command Climate Survey, and I'd like to share with you some of this feedback and some of my thoughts on what you had to say.

On the climate survey, there were 344 respondents—close to half the district. With that many responses, there was a lot said. First of all, as I do with all the surveys, I read and took notes on every individual comment. If you took the time to write it, I took the time to read it. The comments ran the gamut—good, bad and ugly. Thankfully, much more good than bad or ugly.

One trend I saw related to much anxiety over regionalization, National Security Personnel System, A-76 and other change initiatives affecting lines of authority. Part of the concern is a natural discomfort with the uncertainty associated with change—particularly if it might affect pay or the unit. Part of my duty is to better communicate where USACE, the Northwestern Division, and the district are in regards to these changes. I've got it and will redouble our efforts to let you know what's going on. Quite honestly, the challenge is in pinning any one of these down long enough to pass on reliable, actionable information. The good news is in each case, all these initiatives are trending in the right direction. For example, an initial urge throughout the Corps in regards to regionalization was to rearrange the boxes on the organizational chart and call it a win. NWD fought those urges, mostly, and opted instead to begin to define

regionalization in terms of standardizing or optimizing processes across the division, BEFORE making organizational changes. The MILCON and HTRW Regional Acquisition Plans and the FY 2007

Regional Budget formulation are a few examples of doing regionalization right—there are more. There is also more work to do, and I'll do a better job of keeping you informed on these moving targets.

I took to heart the few comments I read relating to access to the commander. While I feel I am constantly on the road and meeting with most of you, there are a great many in the district with whom I have little or no contact. Some had commented that the “open door” policy wasn't open at all if someone had to go through their chain of command before seeing me. Open door has always been a tough area to strike a balance. On the one extreme, we have unlimited access to the boss to solve every problem in the district—big and small. On the other, we shield the boss from any perception that things may not be quite so rosy in his command. The middle ground is where the concept of the chain-of-command comes into play. In fairness, it gives the leaders and supervisors between you and the commander an opportunity to solve problems at their level, rather than making any and all problems a command issue. If the chain-of-command can't solve the issue or it is the issue, then my door is open (and has been used).

Some had commented that more Town Halls would be better. We'll work on that. I'll also start to schedule brown bags more often to get to see more of you and get the word out, face-to-face, on the changes and challenges facing our great district. I can also use the time to tell you more about what I'm doing with the survey input you've given me.

As always, I am proud of all you do for the nation and the Army every day, and I'm thankful for the opportunity to serve in the Kansas City District. Have a great 2007. Hooah! Col. Mike Rossi



COL Michael A. Rossi

# Entering our **100**th year of vision, achievement & service to the nation

**A**cross a range of missions, the Kansas City District continued to show professional ability and commitment to its tasks throughout fiscal year 2006.

The commitment showed even as the district sent 60 people to help with missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, in support of the Global War on Terror, and to Louisiana and Mississippi for hurricane relief efforts following hurricanes on the coast of the Gulf of Mexico.

In support of the Army's transformation, the district executed several large military construction projects.

Military construction projects under way in FY06 included new headquarters and support facilities for the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division at Fort Riley, Kan. The project is being built under the innovative Construction Manager At-Risk method, with the goal of delivering superior products more rapidly, and is scheduled for completion in early 2007.

Also set for completion in 2007, the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College's Lewis and Clark classroom facility. The 96-classroom building was developed to be on the cutting edge of design. Each classroom features remotely operated monitor screens, modular computer workstations and whiteboards allowing classes to split into eight-officer staff elements.

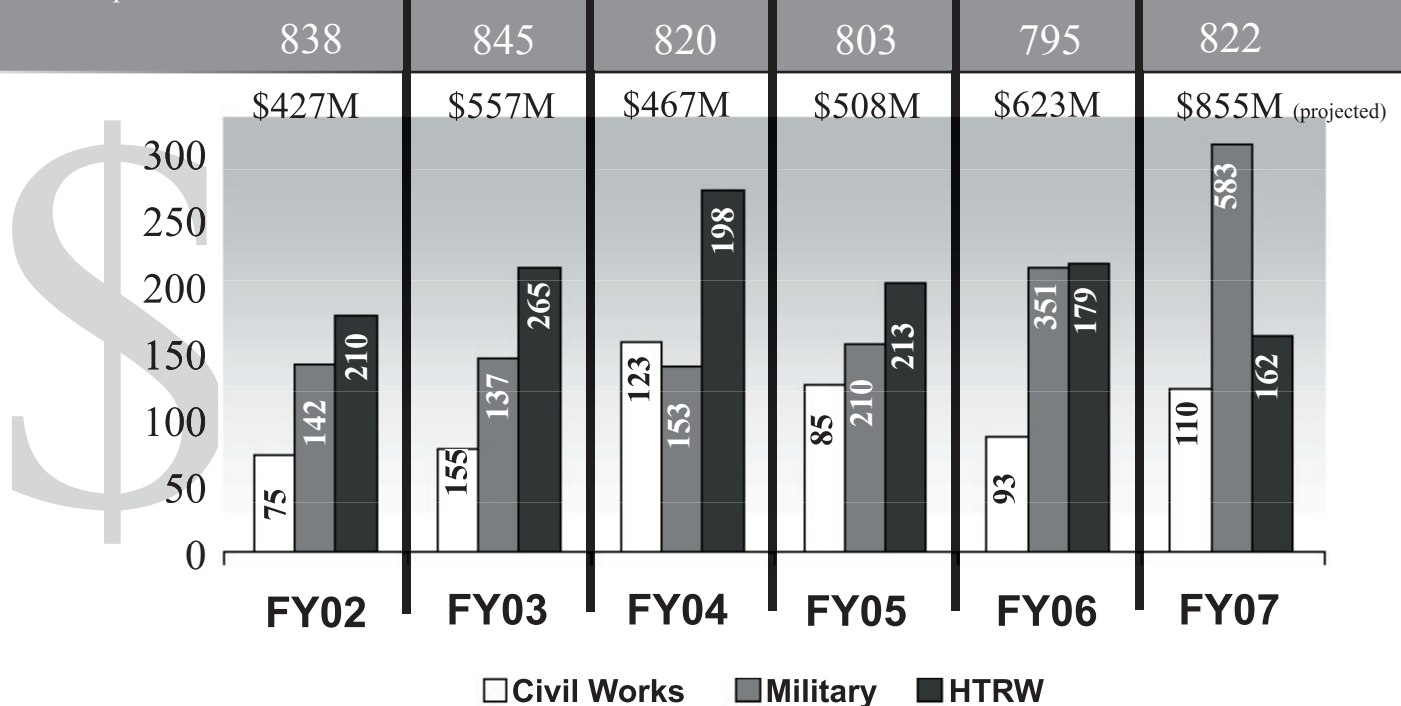
Civil Works projects in the Kansas City District exceeded headquarters goals in 2006, executing more than 95 percent of the scheduled programs for the fiscal year. There were successes, completions and startups in projects as varied as flood damage reduction along the Blue River and Turkey Creek and continuing work on the Missouri River Recovery Project and the Tuttle Creek Dam Safety Program.

Civil Works showed a slight increase in 2006. Among the key civil works projects was the completion of flood damage control structures along Brush Creek in Kansas City, Mo. The project consisted of two pieces—an area along Prospect Avenue that came at a cost of \$11.6 million and another area along Woodland Road costing \$3.6 million. All funding came from either Kansas City government or Missouri state grants, with no federal expenditure involved.

The district anticipates further growth in 2007, with projected increases to \$855 million in programmatic expenses for the year.

The new year marks the Kansas City District's 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of providing Relevant, Ready, Responsive and Reliable service to its region and the nation. The district stands ready to meet its challenges as it moves forward into its 100<sup>th</sup> year.

Full Time Equivalent Personnel





# MILITARY BRANCH



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The Kansas City District Military Program nearly triples to \$340 million in fiscal year 2006

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The Kansas City District embarked upon the first of several years of a very large military workload in fiscal year 2006 with the Base Realignment and Closure FY05 projects beginning in conjunction with the district's usual Military Construction Account; operations and maintenance workload. The district embraced the Military Construction Transformation initiative and led the way nationally with one of the first BRAC awards and projects to actually break ground—the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division Headquarters project at Fort Riley, Kan.

Innovative contracting tools such as Construction Manager at Risk were effectively used to accomplish this task. The district also provided the pilot project, Model Request for Proposal—"Wizard" software and successfully used the tool to create the RFP package on the Fort Riley -Whitside Barracks project.

Engineering and Construction Division, Programs and Project Management Division and Planning personnel are on national teams to support Military Construction transformation and actively pursuing relationships with the new Centers of Standardization—eight districts creating the standard designs for the Army military construction program's 41 facilities.

The Kansas City District awarded BRAC/MCA projects at all of its major military installations in FY06 as follows:

**Fort Riley, Kan.**

- Digital Multi-Purpose Training Range, \$17 million.
- Unit of Employment X/Sustainable Unit of Action  
1<sup>st</sup> ID Headquarters Increment 1 in two separate contracts—  
one for the 1st ID HQ and one for the Custer Hill Barracks, \$91 million.
- Deployment Support Facility, \$5 million.
- Alert Holding Area Facility, \$6 million.
- Deployment Facility Ramp Expansion, \$6 million.

**Fort Leavenworth, Kan.**

- Lewis and Clark Center Increment 3, \$42 million.
- Fort Leonard Wood—Counter Explosive Hazard Center Phase 2, \$8 million.  
Permanent Party Barracks Phase 3, \$15 million.

**Whiteman, Mo., Air Force Base**

- Conventional Munitions Storage, \$6 million.

**McConnell, Kan., Air Force Base**

- Hydrant Fuel System, \$15 million.

The district was unsuccessful in awarding the Family Housing projects at Whiteman Air Force Base because of extremely high bids. Efforts are ongoing to try and award the housing projects in FY07.

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# CIVIL WORKS

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Civil Works projects in the Kansas City District exceeded headquarters goals in 2006, executing more than 95 percent of the scheduled programs for the fiscal year. There were successes, completions and startups in projects as varied as flood damage reduction along the Blue River and Turkey Creek and continuing work on the Missouri River Recovery Project and the Tuttle Creek Dam Safety Program.

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The district's Civil Works project for FY06 included the completion of the Columbia Bottom portion of the Missouri River Fish and Wildlife Mitigation project near St. Louis, said Project Manager Don Meier.

Civil Works also kicked off construction of the Turkey Creek flood damage reduction project in Kansas City, Kan., and Kansas City, Mo., which will help reduce flood damage near the center of the Kansas City metro area, said Bob Dimmitt, project manager.

Construction was completed on the Prospect and Woodland reaches of Brush Creek which the Corps designed and constructed for Kansas City, Mo.

"The Prospect portion had a cost of \$11.6 million," Project Manager Cindy Moses said. "Woodland cost \$3.6 million. All of the funding came from the city, and grants from the State. The project was built using no federal funds."

Moses said the projects were built by the Corps under a memorandum of agreement between the two entities.

"The Woodland Project was 1,200 feet of channel improvements, a large dam, and a drop structure that slows the velocity of the moving water," Moses said. "The Prospect Project consisted of 3,000 feet of channel improvements, five concrete dams and the new Prospect Bridge."

Both projects deepened and widened the channel to enable it to handle a "100-year" flood.

Two major feasibility studies were completed in FY06, the Kansas City levee project, also known as the Seven Levees and levees in St. Joseph, Mo. Studies

also continued on Upper Turkey Creek, Kan., Brush Creek Basin in Kansas and Missouri, Topeka, Kan., and Manhattan, Kan.

The \$8 million Union Pacific railroad bridge contract was completed in FY06. Project Manager John Holm said the district removed four bridges and replaced them with three bridges—one being two-tracked so the railroad lost no rail capacity.

"We did this because we are widening and deepening the Blue River Channel," Holm said.

The bridges are in the southeast portion of Kansas City, Mo., in the Leeds Industrial District.

Utility corridor construction was completed on the Blue River Channel project. Holm said the two projects are essential to the completion of the Blue River Channel project.

"We had to do a small channel realignment on the Blue River to allow the city to move utilities. This will allow them to make changes to an adjacent bridge, which will allow us to finish the channel project," Holm said.

He said the utility conduit is a nine-duct channel encased in concrete to support major utilities in the area.

The flood wall portion of the Blue River Basin at the Dodson Industrial District was completed and a contract awarded to begin construction of the levee. Holm said the federal portion of the total \$22 million dollar project is about \$15 million. The flood wall, a 40-foot section of I-wall closing a gap between existing structures and the Hickman Mills Bridge, cost only \$1 million, a small, but essential, portion of the overall project.



# *Year in Review*

## OCTOBER '05



Operations managers from the Kansas City District lake projects joined district operations team members in a two-day conference held Oct. 26 and 27 in Kansas City. The two-day conference provided the district team an opportunity to address project concerns and FY06 issues. Photo by Tom O'Hara

## NOVEMBER '05



District employees listen to guest speakers during a brown bag luncheon held Nov. 3 in honor of National Native American and Alaska Native Heritage Month. Topics included misconceptions regarding Native Peoples and sovereign status of Native American tribes. Photo by Diana McCoy

Sue Gehrt, Sharon McDonald, Sharon Fritz and Diana McCoy (left to right) prepare for the Combined Federal Campaign bake sale Nov. 16. The event was just one of several which took place to raise money for CFC, kicked off in September. Photo by Mike Watkins



## DECEMBER '05

Steve Iverson, Des Goyal, Kevin Bond, Bill Zaner, David Glandon and (then) Maj. Kelly Butler (left to right) gather to judge bumper sticker entries Dec. 6. Employees throughout the district submitted entries for a contest begun by Col. Michael Rossi. The intent of the bumper stickers was to find a catch phrase that captured the Kansas City District. The winner of the contest took home \$500. Photo by Diana McCoy





# JANUARY



Julie Mueller, a natural resource management specialist at Pomona Lake, staffs a booth at the Kansas City Sportshow at Bartle Hall Jan. 17. Photo by Mike Watkins

Cynthia Kelly welcomes Kansas City District employees to view the exhibit for the seventh Annual Civil Rights Open House. The day's activities included a food bazaar, Civil Rights and American History Trivia contest and "A History of the Civil Rights Movement" video. Photo by Diana McCoy



Lt. Col. Kelly Butler (right), led by Col. Michael Rossi, affirms her oath in a promotion ceremony held Jan. 6. Butler's parents, husband and two sons attended. Photo by Jennie Wilson

The 20th Olympic Games kicked off Feb. 10 in Torino, Italy. Seven games were presented during the 17-day competition and included biathlon, bobsleigh, curling, ice hockey, luge, skating and skiing.

# FEBRUARY

Members of the Lincoln College Preparatory Academy Colorguard post the colors during a ceremony held Feb. 2 to honor the winners of the seventh Annual Poetry, Essay & Art Contest held at the Richard Bolling Federal Building. Col. Michael Rossi presented the awards for the event, which celebrated Black History Month. Photo by Diana McCoy



Thousands of school children flooded Union Station in Kansas City, Mo., March 7 for the Crayons to CAD event. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Kansas City District provided two interactive models made of clear Plexiglass to demonstrate how engineering can control and make efficient use of water. Photo by Diana McCoy



Michael Diaz, Christi Endres, Christopher Dirr and Barbara Cunningham (left to right) hold a discussion during a mini collocation meeting March 8 with all branches of the Armed Forces-Army, Navy, Marines and Air Force. They reviewed the status of all prospective new locations, closing offices and additional space to existing offices in both Missouri and Kansas. Photo by Diana McCoy



# MARCH



A tornado ripped through Pomme de Terre Lake March 12, touching down in several places. Although no one at the lake project was injured, 14 people in the area sustained injuries. There were no fatalities. Photo by Mike Watkins



# APRIL

Students take part in the Central Missouri Regional Envirothon at the Harry S. Truman Visitors Center April 11. The event is for high school students with a day of testing on aquatics, forestry, wildlife, soils and current environmental issues. More than 160 students participated. Photo by Danny Sandersfeld



Lt. Col. Kelly Butler accepted the 2006 Nunn-Perry Award on behalf of the Kansas City District April 26. The award is part of a program which helps small businesses successfully compete for prime contract and subcontract awards by partnering with large companies under individual, project-based agreements. Photo by Jennie Wilson



Kansas City District employees participate in Take Your Sons and Daughters to Work Day April 27. Photo by Diana McCoy



# MAY



District employees gather to celebrate the kick off of Kansas City Corporate Challenge at the Kansas Speedway May 12. Thousands of people from across the Kansas City Metropolitan Area took part in the one-mile walk. Photo by Eric Cramer



Lisa Stork, a water safety ranger at Tuttle Creek Lake, applies a temporary tattoo on Allison Augustine of Edwardsville, Kan., at the district's water safety booth display May 6 at Cabela's in Kansas City, Kan. Stork, Ranger Jim Dickerson and representatives of the Missouri Water Patrol spread the water safety message to hundreds of children at the two-day event. Photo by Eric Cramer

Lt. Col. Kelly Butler, district deputy commander, and Bob Marchi, operations manager for Harry S. Truman Lake (first and second from left), join project partners from the Missouri Department of Conservation, North American Wetlands Conservation Council, Ducks Unlimited and dozens of other agencies in the dedication of the Dehn Wetland Restoration Project near Clinton, Mo., May 24. The wetland is part of a \$312,000 project led by the MDC which helped restore important linkage habitats within the sprawling Osage River Basin complex, thereby expanding the mosaic of prime wildlife habitats, including bottomland forest, wetlands and wet prairies. Photo by Thomas O'Hara



# JUNE



District employees meet to celebrate the Kansas City District 2006 Engineer Day Picnic June 9 at Longview Lake. The picnic kicked off with the federal awards service, after which employees enjoyed food and games. Photo by Scott Robben.

The Greenfield Marsh, developed under the Small Ecosystem Restoration Section 1135, Water Resources Development Act of 1986 Continuing Authorities Program, is dedicated in a ceremony June 6. The marsh is located near Colyn, Iowa. Photo provided



Clarissa Grill celebrates her 40th anniversary of working for the Kansas City District during a surprise party June 1. Photo by Diana McCoy



# JULY



Vira Dobbins, president of Federal Employees Union Local 29, and Col. Michael Rossi, district commander, sign a memorandum of understanding July 6, ending Quarterly Monitoring within the Richard Bolling Federal Building. The memorandum allows the district to spend the funding in other areas, benefitting district employees. Photo by Eric Cramer



Officials break ground July 27 at Fort Riley, Kan., on the \$50 million headquarters building for the 1st Infantry Division. The project, approved in April 2006, is slated to be complete by November of 2007. Photo by Diana McCoy

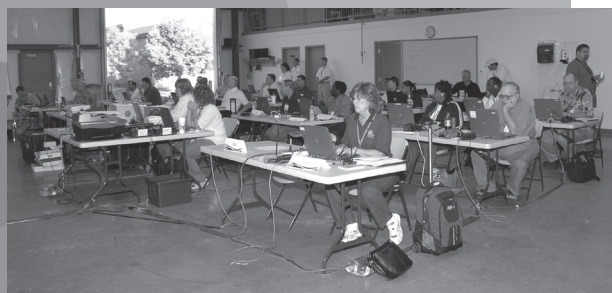
Larry Bolton, sonar operator for the Kansas City District, sets up a survey program July 31 while trying to locate inert bombs which were dropped into Kanopolis Lake July 19 while en route to the Smoky Hill Air National Guard bombing range. Photo by Eric Cramer



# AUGUST



Representatives from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, the Long Branch Lake Association, the Missouri Department of Natural Resources come together to dedicate a CXT vault toilet Aug. 30. The location of the vault toilet is also the location of one of Long Branch Lake's most popular fishing spots. Photo by Matt Wilson



Kansas City District employees participated in the Continuity of Operations exercise held Aug. 30 at the Missouri River Area Office in Napoleon, Mo. The exercise lasted four hours and gave employees a chance to simulate how they would respond in an emergency situation. Photo by Alicia Embrey



The 9th Annual Stockton Lake Cleanup Event took place Sept. 9. The event, which attracted about 200 people, was held in support of National Public Lands Day. Photo by Alicia Embrey



Maj. Matthew Little presents Julie Robinson with a penne'd thank you note from Col. Michael Rossi at the conclusion of the Hispanic Heritage Month Observance Program Sept. 18. Robinson spoke about the Westside Action for Youth Coalition and the elimination of barriers to education. Photo by Diana McCoy

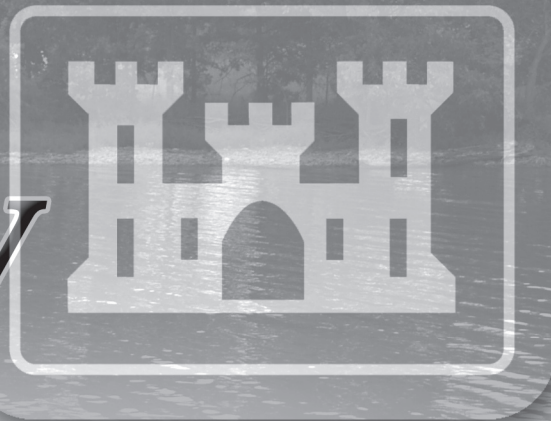
# SEPTEMBER

The Combined Federal Campaign kickoff was held Sept. 20 directly south of the Federal Courthouse at the Illus Davis Park. Greg Wilson, chief of Real Estate, was this year's lead for the Kansas City District. Photo by Diana McCoy





# HTRW



In fiscal year 2006 the Kansas City District's Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste Program performed about \$180 million in environmental restoration projects for the nation. The Environmental Programs Branch manages the projects of the HTRW Program, comprised of a staff of more than 100 engineers, scientists, project managers, attorneys, contracting specialists and administrative professionals. Engineering and scientific support for the program comes from the Environmental Engineering Branch, and contracting support from HTRW Branch of the Contracting Division. The program relies upon many other district elements for expertise in real estate, legal, design, geo-technical, geology, cost estimating, construction, GIS and surveying.

Seven major sub-programs comprise the HTRW Program: the Superfund Program; the Formerly Used Defense Sites Program; the Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program; the Installation Restoration Program and Army Environmental Base Realignment and Closure Program; Griffiss Air Force Base Realignment and Closure Program; the International and Interagency Services Environmental Program (formerly the Environmental Support for Others Program); and the Environmental Quality Program. The district is a design center for HTRW projects and supports work in many states including Missouri, Kansas, Iowa, Nebraska, New York and New Jersey.

Throughout the HTRW Program, the FY06 focus has been achieving phase completions on projects. Customer and internal USACE goals emphasize completing phases on time, under budget and with appropriate quality levels. The HTRW Project Delivery Teams focus on project delivery, and in FY07, the PDTs will continue to use tools like as project management plans and earned value to aid in project delivery.

## Superfund Program

The Kansas City District's Superfund Program, begun in 1982, is the oldest HTRW program in the nation. In FY06, the SF Program performed \$62.9 million in environmental restoration work for EPA's Regions II, IV, VI and VII.

The Kansas City District and EPA Region II have shared a relationship for more than 20 years, and Kansas City remains the agency's district of choice for technical and contractual support. Among the highlights of the program during FY06 were reaching the "Construction Complete" phase at the U.S. Radium Site and the Kansas City Project Team receiving the 2006 Notable Achievement Award for reaching "Construction Complete" at the Montclair/West Orange and Glen Ridge Superfund Sites.

## Formerly Used Defense Sites Program

In FY06, the Kansas City District's FUDS Program conducted investigations and performed removal actions

*continued on page 15*



U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contractors remove soil from the Li Tungsten site. More than 850 rail cars of contaminated soil were removed from the site. *Photo provided*



Tom Semotuk is deployed to Baghdad, Iraq, as a project engineer and has been there since October 2004.

*Photo provided*

#### **Hurricane duty**

Ahren, Dan  
Blair, Kevin  
Brown, Darrell  
Cates, Gaylord  
Charles, Marqueta  
Clark, Cynthia  
Cramer, Eric  
Cross, Rochelle  
Flamm, Paul  
Franz, James  
Giacomo, John  
Gilkey, Florentine  
Capt. Hall, Charles  
Wallace, Dennis  
Hansen, Valerie  
Henderson, Larry  
Hohensee, Sally  
Janicek, Larry  
Jeffries, William  
Keast, Mark  
London, Ted  
Lopez, Joe  
Moore, David  
Morrow, Darrel  
Mura, Ed  
Rabbe, Lisa  
Redding, Michael  
Sheffield, Mitzi  
Whitaker, Bobby  
Wright, Bradley  
Wright, Brian  
Whitfield, Rosalind  
Williams, Karim

#### **GWOT—Afghanistan and Iraq**

Brooks, David  
Bruns, Alan  
Lt. Col. Butler, Kelly  
Carte, David  
Clayton, Carlos  
Dirr, Christopher  
Dyer, Braven  
Falcon, Tereso  
Capt. Gray, Charles  
Holtz, Jerry  
Hood, Francis  
Hood, William  
Logan, Brent  
Louis, Edwin  
Lynch, Kevin  
Maj. Little, Matthew  
Mitchell, Derrick  
Myers, Larry  
Nimi-Robertson, Debra  
O'Hara, Thomas  
Parker-Anderson, Rona  
Raymon Martin  
Semotuk, Thomas  
Urbaniak, Thomas  
Wolterman, Michael

\*In addition to these primary deployment missions, John Skelton and Greg Huber deployed to Carthage, Mo., on a mission to check on a vendor's water and ice storage, and Paul Flamm deployed to Caruthersville, Mo., to assist the Memphis District with hurricane relief.



Although the Kansas City District's Emergency Operations Center has overseen the deployment of many district employees in FY06, EOC manager Paul Flamm said the year has also been an opportunity for redevelopment in some areas.

"In 2005, we had Hurricane Katrina, and the year before that we had four hurricanes, and we had people deployed with those efforts and in Iraq and Afghanistan," Flamm said. "We still have people working on the Katrina effort, but we were lucky this year in that no hurricanes came ashore."

Flamm said a major event for EOC this year was participation in August's Kansas City Regional Inter-agency Continuity of Operations Exercise 2006, or KCRICE '06.

"That is the largest cooperative exercise conducted outside Washington D.C.," Flamm said.

In the exercise, Kansas City division chiefs and support personnel moved to the Missouri River Area Office at Napoleon, Mo., to simulate operations at a remote location during a severe weather emergency. The exercise included working on a series of overlapping emergencies while accounting for personnel who may be difficult to find in the midst of an ongoing emergency.

Flamm said another major development for FY06 was the designation of Kansas City's water team as a national asset.

He said the team must coordinate with the Federal Emergency Management Agency in multiple states to deliver potable water in the event of a national emergency.

"This national water team hasn't deployed yet," Flamm said. He said the past multiple teams delivered water to different states, rather than it being a coordinated, multi-state effort.

"We contract to get the right amount of water to the right place at the right time. We also send people downrange to make certain the water is getting there," Flamm said.

The Kansas City District has also been in full support of hurricane relief and Global War on Terrorism efforts throughout the past year, Flamm said.

"We have some people who have extended multiple times. Kevin Blair, who works at the Smithville Lake project, has been gone for more than a year on deployment. He was one of the first to volunteer for Hurricane Katrina and he's continued to extend," Flamm said.



Lisa Rabbe deployed in response to the Hurricane Katrina cleanup effort. Rabbe was at this site for 13 hours working to restore power and utilities.

*Photo provided*





## REAL ESTATE

The Kansas City District Real Estate mission experienced across-the-board successes in fiscal year 2006 as it met or surpassed its execution goals in managing lease programs to support military recruiting, local reserve and civil works operations.

As part of its obligation to manage leases and locate housing for recruiters in support of all military services, the district processed more than \$6.2 million in contracts plus an additional \$905,000 to support local Army Reserve operations. In the civil works mission area, district real estate specialists achieved 100 percent execution in mitigation projects along the Missouri River (\$4.5 million) as well as 100 percent execution in agricultural leasing arrangements around district lake projects.

The total Real Estate program level in FY06 of \$8.1 million was larger than the five-year average of \$7.6 million.

"It's been a busy year," said Chief of Real Estate, Greg Wilson.

He anticipates FY06 will be even more challenging as state mitigation is expected to exceed \$7 million in acquisitions alone.

With ongoing deployment requirements to support recovery efforts at home and reconstruction efforts abroad, Wilson credits his staff to maintaining the district's high execution levels in real estate support.

"We're fortunate to have a strong staff of proactive and professional team members here in Kansas City," he said.

## CONTRACTING

In fiscal year 2006, the Kansas City District Contracting Division awarded 2,169 contracts, with a total value of more than \$724 million.

In FY05, the district awarded \$611 million in contracts. Contracting Chief Vincent Marsh said the district showed an almost 20 percent increase in awarded contracts with no staffing increases during the fiscal year.

The district awarded major contracts in the areas of Military Construction.

FY06 Hazardous, Toxic and Radioactive Waste contracts included: Lee Tungsten Superfund site, N. J.; Horseshow Road Superfund site, Sayreville, N.J.; Griffiss Air Force Base N.Y., groundwater task order; Middlesex and Maywood, N.J., superfund sites; and numerous contracts for formerly used defense sites.

The district also executed numerous military construction contracts for work

*continued on page 15*

## INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

Fiscal year 2006 was an incredibly busy and stressful time for the district's Information Management employees. The A-76 competitive sourcing initiative was well under way at the beginning of the year with an initial performance decision slated for March. After several delays, the decision was finally announced in June in favor of the government. The unsuccessful bidder promptly filed a protest with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers which was denied. This was followed with a law suit in the Court of Federal Claims. The decision is pending.

In January, five employees, including the chief, departed for other opportunities. Despite the turmoil, the IM staff has taken it all in stride, accomplishing some significant undertakings. Steve Burns, chief of IM, said the most important and far reaching change made this year was the installation of the new Voice over Internet Protocol (VoIP) telephone system. Assisted by contractors and newly appointed Telephone Control Officers (TCOs), the IM staff successfully deployed the new system and provided training to the TCOs. Besides reducing telephone line costs, the new VoIP system has integrated all 30 field sites within the district's telephone system, providing four-digit dialing between all district users. Additional capabilities and features have yet to be implemented.

Several automation initiatives were undertaken and completed during the year. All file servers in the district office and the field offices were replaced and upgraded to Windows 2003 Server. In the process, file storage at each field site was doubled. District office file storage was also increased, allowing user's email storage to

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## SAFETY & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

Fiscal year 2006 was a challenging but successful year for the district's Safety and Occupational Health program said office chief, Joseph Graf.

"Any accident to our employees or stakeholders (contractor employees or members of the public), or accidents resulting in destruction of property is one too many. Our efforts continue to stress preventive safety and health programs to eliminate accidents, or where there is an accident, manage its negative effect," Graf said.

The district recorded 55 total accidents in FY06, the tenth lowest total since 1975 when the district began recording such data.

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## SECURITY

Fiscal year 2006 proved to be a busy one for the Security Office, run by Mark Asbury. Throughout the year, initiatives for information security and physical security and force protection were complete.

Under information security, every employee was issued the new 64k Common Access Card, for a total of 818 cards issued. Asbury conducted a complete review of all 907 job descriptions to determine access requirements and trust verification levels. The determination was made that all district employees and contractors are required to use their CAC to log onto their computer. Also, the district implemented use of the Department of Defense Joint Personnel Adjudication System to verify trust for employees joining the district and employees sent overseas on deployment.

Under physical security and force protection initiatives, all 12 primary operational lake projects implemented site specific security plans which interlaced Homeland Security Alert System with DoD Force Protection Measures. Also, seven lake projects completed major physical security upgrades to their dam structure which added physical delay barriers, monitoring and alert warning systems.

## SMALL BUSINESS

Because of transition from forms formerly used to report contract awards to Congress, to the new Contract Action Reports, Army is not able to verify total actual dollars awarded for fiscal year 2006 until mid-January 2007. The district's Contracting Division believes total dollars will be in excess of \$700 million when the new system captures fourth-quarter awards in January, 2007.

In FY05 Kansas City District awarded \$724 million total dollars in contracts. A total of \$311 million went to small businesses, representing 41 percent of the district total. The district awarded about nine percent in contracts to Women-Owned businesses. The district awarded one percent of its total to Small Disadvantaged businesses, four percent to Veteran-Owned businesses, and one percent to Black-Owned businesses. Five percent of the district's contracts went to businesses in HUB Zones, and one percent to Minority-Owned businesses. Businesses in the 8-A program received four percent of the district's contracts.



# COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT



Cheryl Williams enjoys pancakes with her daughter, Jalalin Williams, during the CFC Pancake Friday fundraiser. *Photo by Diana McCoy*

**K**ansas City District employees, long-time supporters of the community, were quick to help out in fiscal year 2006.

## **Black History Month**

Sharon McDonald, black employment program manager, coordinated for the Annual Poetry, Essay & Art Contest Feb. 2. The theme for the 2006 contest was "Crisis in America: Hurricane Katrina." The event featured a color guard and a song and dance performed by students from Kiddie Kollege. Also during the ceremony, Col. Michael Rossi and McDonald unveiled the 2006 Black Heritage Stamp which features Hattie McDaniel, the first black actress to win an Academy Award. The stamp, 29<sup>th</sup> in its series, was presented by Ormer Rogers Jr., a representative from the U.S. Postal Service.

## **Crayons to CAD**

Representatives from the district staffed a booth at Union Station March 7 that featured two different interactive models. The program is for middle school students who are given a prescribed set of instructions to resolve an engineering problem using middle school curriculum.

The models were designed and built by Walter Heimbaugh, an architectural engineer for the district. He created a working scale model of the turbines and generator at Harry S. Truman Power Plant and a working model of a fish ladder.

"Youth today are facing many challenges—more so than when we were their age," said Larry Myers, executive assistant for the Kansas City District. "Thus encouraging them to become interested in engineering, construction and technologies that are paramount to this industry is vitally important while they're still in the stage of deciding what field of higher education they want to pursue."

## **Kansas City Corporate Challenge**

The district's KCCC board saw the Corps' team in sixth place for 2006. A total of 19 employees signed up to compete in the games, and the district scored a total of 493 points.

Al Gehrt won a gold medal for the district for his trap shooting skills. The district also walked away with four silver medals and six bronze medals.

The mission of KCCC is to promote health, wellness and camaraderie by presenting participants with physical endeavors designed to challenge their bodies and minds through the spirit of corporate competition.

## **Day of Caring**

Joe Hughes led the effort this year for Community Linc, whose mission is to develop self-sufficient families. About 35 employees took on the task of building rear porch decks on a three-story apartment building, fixing rot which was allowing water to leak into a basement and painting the inside of an entire apartment.

Hughes estimates the team completed thousands of dollars of work with materials donated by area businesses.

## **Combined Federal Campaign**

The 2006 campaign kicked off Sept. 20 at the Illus Davis Park in Kansas City, Mo. This year, the Kansas City District had a goal of \$90,000 and exceeded that goal by raising \$89,089.92 in pledges and \$5,254.04 in fundraising activities for a total amount of \$94,343.96.

In addition to the community involvement listed here, there were many other activities outside the Kansas City area which district employees participated in. Among those were events held at the district's project offices such as youth hunts or hunts for the physically impaired in the fall and eagle days throughout the month of January.



Children from Kiddie Kollege perform a song and dance during an awards ceremony for the seventh Annual Poetry, Essay & Art Contest. This event took place in celebration of Black History Month.

*Photo by Diana McCoy*



## MILITARY BRANCH

*continued from page 5*

Several large Operations and Maintenance projects were also awarded in FY06—

### **Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.,**

- Specker Barracks renovation, \$33 million.
- 94<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion Interim Facilities, \$17 million.
- Combat Aviation Brigade Interim Relocatable Facilities, \$31 million.

Also completed in FY06 are the following projects: Range 22, National Guard Armory Mail Containment Facility at Fort Leonard Wood, Barracks renovation projects, Officer Reserve Training Center at Fort Riley, and the Army Reserve Center at Fort Leavenworth.

Actual construction placement in FY06 totaled \$340 million in the Military program; approximately triple that of the several years previous. The district expects continued increases as it works through the BRAC workload over the next several years.

## CIVIL WORKS

*continued from page 6*

The Civil Works Operations and Maintenance program spent more than \$41 million during FY06 including \$39 million in the FY06 program and an additional \$2.4 million in 2005 carryover dollars for the Critical Infrastructure Security Program.

The Missouri River Area Office spent more than \$1.8 million in maintenance on the river, including dike and structural repairs. In addition, they also executed \$1.1 million in work related to shallow water habitat restoration.

Also included in the total expenditures in FY06 was \$440,000 for periodic inspections at Rathbun, Milford, Tuttle Creek and Kanopolis; \$270,000 on the Harlan County Dam Safety Assurance Study, which is scheduled to be completed in FY07; \$20,000 for bridge inspections and \$36,000 for a relief well rejuvenation at Long Branch.

In addition to the above, more than \$13 million was executed in the recreational business line to serve the \$12 million plus recreating visitors to the lake projects during the recreation season.

## HTRW

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and cleanup efforts at former defense sites in Kansas, Missouri, and Nebraska. The FUDS program obligated \$10.4 million in contracts and \$6.1 million in in-house study, design, oversight, and contract support in FY06. The district awarded \$2.4 million in Performance Based Contracts, exceeding the district's goal and greatly supporting the standards for Northwestern Division. The district recorded 20 Phase Completes, exceeding its metric by 11 actions and executed eight Remedy in Place/Response Complete actions, exceeding the metric by six RIP/RCs. Kansas City District continued its partnering efforts with all of the state and federal regulatory agencies, and the FUDS project delivery teams continued working with private landowners, Restoration Advisory Boards and other stakeholders to ensure that public involvement is incorporated into the decisions made for remediation at the FUDS sites.

### **Formerly Utilized Sites Remedial Action Program**

The 1998 Energy and Water Appropriations Bill transferred management of the cleanup of

atomic energy sites from the Department of Energy to the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. The FUSRAP mission was assigned to several Corps districts located near the sites. The Kansas City District serves as a virtual team member to two of the districts. Kansas City provides technical, legal and management support to New York District for three sites located in New Jersey and one in New York. The district provides similar assistance to the St. Louis District for four sites located near St. Louis, Mo. The district's FUSRAP Program involves the remediation of contaminated sites and disposal of low-level radioactive materials. In FY06, the FUSRAP teams awarded more than \$75 million in environmental restoration contracts and expended nearly \$1 million for in-house study, design and contract support.

### **Installation Restoration Program/Army Environmental Base Realignment and Closure**

The Army IRP and Environmental BRAC Program for FY06 included support for several strategic customers in Kansas and Missouri. The Kansas City District continued relationships with the Army Environmental Center and the BRAC office for support of customers at Fort Riley, Fort Leavenworth, Fort Leonard Wood, Sunflower Army Ammunition Plant, Kansas Army Ammunition Plant, Lake City Army Ammunition Plant, St. Louis Ordnance Plant and Camp Crowder. The district's IRP/Environmental BRAC program totaled \$11.8 million for FY06, exceeding the \$9.22 million baseline.

### **Air Force BRAC, Griffiss Air Force Base**

This program entails the environmental restoration of the former Griffiss AFB in Rome, N.Y. The program was originally forecast to be \$3.80 million for FY06. The actual cost was \$4.35 million. Work at Griffiss AFB is being performed under Performance Based Contracts and involves restoration of soils and groundwater at the base.

### **International and Interagency Services Program**

The IIS Program is comprised of environmental support offered to other federal agencies (the Superfund program falls under the IIS definition, but is reported as a stand alone program above). In FY06, the Kansas City District executed \$3.5 million of business with our traditional IIS customers: EPA Regions VI and VII, Federal Emergency Management Agency and the Department of Education. Highlights of the program include providing radioactive disposal services Region VIII, support of the Brownfields Program to EPA Region VII and the city of Kansas City, Mo., and signing a new Memorandum of Agreement with the Department of Education to support Section 8007 and 8008 schools.

### **Environmental Quality Program**

Separate from restoration services, environmental compliance services provided to our Army customers are funded under the Environmental Quality Program. In FY06, the Kansas City District EQ program continued its partnerships with the regional military facilities by providing environmental program support for compliance, conservation and pollution prevention. The program's traditional EQ customers included Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.; Fort Riley, Kan.; Fort Leavenworth, Kan.; and the Army Reserve and National Guard Bureau. During FY06, the EQ program obligated nearly \$1.04 million of in-house expertise and

\$5.1 million in contracts in support of these facilities. Noteworthy in this fiscal year was the district's sustained involvement in Fort Leonard Wood's environmental program management and establishing a new support relationship with the National Guard Bureau.

In FY07, NWK's HTRW Program is anticipated to remain a leader for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in HTRW customer support and project execution.

## CONTRACTING

*continued from page 13*

at the new 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division headquarters and barracks complexes at Fort Riley and the new Lewis and Clark Classroom Facility at Fort Leavenworth. Both installations are in Kansas.

## INFORMATION MANAGEMENT

*continued from page 13*

quadruple. Each district office user was also allotted an additional five gigabytes of personal network storage.

One of the largest computer life-cycle replacements ever performed by the district also took place. More than 300 computers throughout the district were replaced, and user's files and software migrated to their new computers. Additionally, 280 computers were upgraded from Windows 2000 to Windows XP. This effort required each user's data to be backed up, the computer's operating system upgraded, software re-installed and the user's data restored. It should be remembered, this all took place with an IM staff operating significantly below its authorized strength.

One of the "behind-the-scenes" efforts that took place this year was the regionalization of the IM budget. NWK-IM took the lead on this effort which lead to the standardization of work codes across the region. The team was also able to standardize charging practices, insuring all districts account for the same items the same way. This will allow a smoother transition when the A-76 service provider takes over.

## SAFETY & OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH

*continued from page 13*

The 12 public drowning accidents and four public fatal accidents at the district's lake projects was up from FY05 and FY04. It was the 12th lowest total recorded in the district in 30 years.

"We have a very proactive water safety committee. Their water safety programs educate the public on how to safely enjoy the recreational opportunities at our lake projects. I think the focus on safety at our projects minimizes these tragedies as much as possible. We continue to work with many other organizations interested in recreational safety to seek new ways to communicate to the recreational public the risks associated with the activities they participate in," said Graf.

The district water safety program includes billboards, public service announcements as well as interactive programs at lake projects and local schools involving an "army" of natural resource specialists and rangers.



# Happy Holidays



*Photo by Jennie Wilson*

## HAILS

Barrington, Nancy E.  
Bass, JR, Michael N.  
Beam, Danny C.  
Black, Justin C.  
Boyer, Darrel G.  
Brockman, Steven D.  
Burns, Steven A.  
Cherrito, Kathy A.  
Clement, Matthew K.  
Davis, Purvis G.  
Deddens, Tom K.  
Dirr, Christopher D.  
Dwyer, Todd D.  
Endres, Christi L.  
Fernandez, Eduardo H.  
Franklin, Daniel C.  
Freshler, Lisa M.  
Garrison, Jennifer F.  
Garvin, Alex D.  
Haldane, Cecilia A.  
Hayes, Charlene H.  
Hix, Nathan M.  
Hollon-Wells, Christina M.  
Holtsclaw, Jerica L.  
Hortua, Arturo  
Jeffers, Wendy D.  
Johnson, Thedford H.

Jones, Tyana N.  
Keck, Karl D.  
Lutz, Michael A.  
McDaniel, Carmen Denise  
Merricks, Veronika Y.  
Muller, Paul D.  
Mura, Jacob K.  
Nabity, Lewis G.  
Neal-Kimble, Faye E.  
Nicholas, Robert G.  
Nicol, John M.  
Phillips-Combs, Alicia A.  
Reenan, James S.  
Rice, Tonya M.  
Robles, Manuel E.  
Schofield, Valerie L.  
Schutte, Danielle R.  
Smith, Alicia L.  
Staab, Wanda M.  
Stevenson, Shereen L.  
Sweet, Jason T.  
Switzer, Jennifer L.  
Tacha, Lester J.  
Upson, Kristofer K.  
Wigginton, Charles K.  
Wilkinson, Thomas S.  
Woodbury, Brian M.

## FAREWELLS

Bias, Bruce D.  
Bowman, Dawn  
Bullington, John O.  
Clement, Matthew  
Dalal, Daksha  
Day, Adam C  
Dwyer, Todd  
Fitzgerald, John  
Fryer, Carmen  
Gilreath, Calvin  
Handy, LaTasha W.  
Hansen, Valerie  
Hoggard, Jimmie  
Holtsclaw, Jerica  
Holtz, Jerry  
Lucas, Julie M.  
Lynch, Kip  
Maynard, Denise L.  
McCoy, Diane  
Meyerkord, Andrew  
Miller, Richard  
Murphy, Michael J.  
Nevins, Emma  
Payne, Arnold J.  
Penman, David  
Pletcher, Dane  
Plume, Norm

Pouliot, Andrea  
Pullen, Josette  
Robinson-Green, Dawn  
Robles, Manuel  
Russell, Amy J.  
Rustemeyer, Robert  
Schuster, Carl  
Shain, Stacie L.  
Sharma, Anil  
Stevenson, Shereen  
Stimmel, Richard A.  
Stover, Howard J.  
Sweetwood, Michael  
Waugh, Harold  
Whitfield, Rosalind  
Williamson, Diane  
Wolterman, Mike

## RETIREMENTS

Ahern, Daniel S.  
Athey, Harold G.  
Banes, Harold R  
Diesel, Harry M. Jr.  
Edgecomb, Kenneth D.  
Geringer, Virginia L.  
Goodson, Earl D.  
Hoyt, John H.

Israel, Robert S.  
LaFountain, Gordon D.  
Lance, Gordon R.  
Langley, William R.  
Larson, Dale R.  
Medary, Richard T.  
Munoz, Joseph H.  
O'Baner, Johnetta  
Scott, James L.  
Searcy, Cynthia R.  
Smith, Robert E.  
Smith, Robert J.  
Spangler, Tim L.  
Turner, John A.  
Vanhorn, Robert R.  
Vannaman, Nigel N.  
Wesley, Ollie M.  
Whitacre, Michael E.  
White, Larry W.  
Wolfender, Michael J.